

FOX'S OF FALMOUTH - F3110.01/01a

Dave Hill

The Fox's of Falmouth were a wealthy Quaker family who had settled in Cornwall having come from Wiltshire in the seventeenth century to settle initially at St Germans. From St Germans in the eighteenth century George Croker Fox had established himself as a shipping agent and merchant in Fowey. Fox came to Falmouth in 1759 and in 1762 G. C. Fox & Co were founded. Although many members were Quakers they were not related to one of the founders of the Quaker movement, George Fox (1624-1691). The firm became ship brokers, a major shipping agency in the development of the growing freight port of Falmouth in Cornwall.



The family had interests in the pilchard fishery and their export to Catholic Mediterranean countries, as well as in two iron foundries. They were also suppliers and “adventurers” (put the money up) in Cornish metal mining, partners in Welsh coal mining, timber

1876
G. C. Fox & Co
Falmouth 26 June
Rd

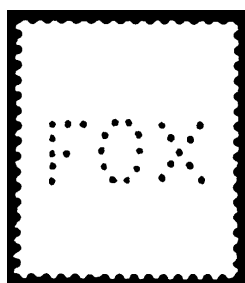
merchants and for many years US consuls in the busy international port of Falmouth. I'm unsure if the FOX full name perfin was used by any of these other companies or whether these companies shared the Falmouth office. The timber

operation was taken over in 1957 by Harveys of Hayle, another perfin user (H4465.01m) but now defunct.

Fox's of Falmouth still exist as ship brokers but the connection with Fox family ceased in 2003. Fox's extended the electric telegraph to a signal station they built at Lizard Point in 1872, eventually this was to reduce the number of ships calling at Falmouth "for orders", instead they could wait off The Lizard for their orders, where to go for a cargo, or the best port to sell it.

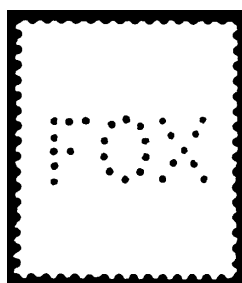
Fox's were active in the Society of Friends and like other successful Quaker businesses operated on Quaker principles. They were also active in the scientific community and founded the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society. Family members were also doctors and surgeons and politicians.

1869 - 1885



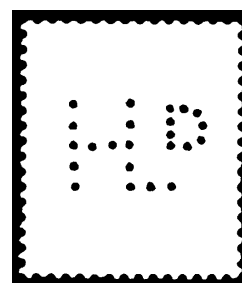
F3110.01

1885 - 1901



F3110.01a

1890 - 1945



H4465.01m

There are two FOX perfin dies known used by Fox's of Falmouth. F3110.01 is known used from 1869 to 1885 on values to a shilling as well as 1d red plates from plates 102 to 224. F3110.01a is only provisionally identified with Fox's of Falmouth and is known used from 1885 to 1901 on 1d lilacs and values to 2/6d. A further three FOX dies are known used by other companies.



Pair of bantams
from Plate 11
with perfin
F3110.01 - FOX